

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing an interface to a driver of a vehicle, the method comprising:
 - receiving a vehicle identifier from the vehicle via a wireless network;
 - identifying the driver of the vehicle using at least the vehicle identifier; and
 - providing at least one of driving information and consumer information on a display of a pay-at-delivery system (PADS).
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - transmitting at least one of driving information and advertising information to the vehicle via the wireless network, where the driving information and the advertising information is configured for display in the vehicle.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising broadcasting a signal configured to elicit a transmission of the vehicle identifier from the vehicle.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the vehicle identifier comprises a radio frequency identifier (RFID) code.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the providing is performed in response to a transaction between the driver and the PADS.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the transaction comprises at least one of a receipt of a password from the driver and a receipt of a credit card number from the driver.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying the driver comprises:
 - querying a customer database for an identity of the driver of the vehicle given the received vehicle identifier; and
 - retrieving the identity of the driver from a customer database.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the driving information comprises at least one of a listing of travel routes to a pay at delivery system (PADS), a vehicle recall alert, a calculation of fuel efficiency for the vehicle, and a service reminder for the vehicle.
9. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether a recall alert exists for the vehicle; and
transmitting, if the recall alert exists for the vehicle, the recall alert to the vehicle.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein the recall alert is in a manufacturer database.
11. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
obtaining a current mileage of the vehicle;
determining a past mileage of the vehicle when the vehicle was last serviced; and
determining whether a difference between the current mileage and the past mileage of the vehicle is greater than a threshold mileage, where the service reminder is transmitted as driving information if the difference is greater than the threshold mileage.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein the current mileage is transmitted from the vehicle and the past mileage is in a customer database.
13. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether an amount of gasoline consumed since a last fueling of the vehicle is available;
if so, obtaining a current mileage of the vehicle and the mileage of the vehicle when the vehicle was last fueled; and
calculating a gas mileage of the vehicle from the amount of gasoline consumed, the current mileage of the vehicle and the mileage of the vehicle when

the vehicle was last fueled, where the calculated gas mileage is transmitted as driving information.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the level of gasoline and the mileage of the vehicle when the vehicle was last fueled is in a customer database for the driver of the vehicle.

15. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
obtaining a current location of the vehicle;
determining whether a destination location of the vehicle is obtainable;
retrieving, if the destination of the vehicle is obtained, at least one route from the current location to the destination location; and
retrieving at least one of traffic information, emergency information and weather information for each route, where the traffic information, emergency information and weather information is transmitted as driving information.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the at least one route is from a map database, the traffic information is from a transportation database, the emergency information is from a police database and the weather information is from a weather database.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein the consumer information comprises an offer of credit on a future purchase, a sequence of advertisements displayed on a pay at delivery system (PADS), and an electronic mail advertisement message.

18. The method of claim 1 wherein the consumer information comprises advertising information.

19. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining a grade of gasoline selected by the driver of the vehicle; and
displaying a sequence of advertisements on a pay at delivery system (PADS) corresponding to the selected grade of gasoline.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the determining the grade comprises:
identifying a grade of gasoline selected from a purchase history of the driver
in a customer database.
21. The method of claim 19 wherein the sequence of advertisements is different
for different grades of gasoline.
22. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether a customer file for the driver is complete in a customer
database;
offering, if the customer file in the customer database is incomplete, a credit
for a future purchase, where the offering of the credit is transmitted as advertising
information; and
providing the credit if the driver completes the customer file.
23. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether a pay at delivery system (PADS) is activated with a
radio frequency identifier (RFID) account; and
requesting a server computer to provide an electronic mail advertisement
message to the vehicle, where the electronic mail advertisement message is
transmitted to the vehicle as advertisement information.
24. The method of claim 1 wherein the PADS is located at a service station.
25. A method of providing an interface to a driver of a vehicle, the method
comprising:
obtaining a current location of the vehicle via a wireless network;
determining whether a destination location of the vehicle is obtainable;
retrieving, if the destination of the vehicle is obtained, at least one route
from the current location to the destination location;
retrieving, for each route retrieved, at least one of traffic information,

emergency information and weather information; and

providing the retrieved traffic information, emergency information and weather information on a display at a pay-at-delivery system (PADS).

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising:

transmitting the retrieved traffic information, emergency information and weather information to the vehicle via a wireless network.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein the at least one route is from a map database, the traffic information is from a transportation database, the emergency information is from a police database and the weather information is from a weather database.

28. The method of claim 25 wherein the providing is performed in response to a transaction between the driver and the PADS.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein the transaction comprises at least one of a receipt of a password from the driver and a receipt of a credit card number from the driver.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein the transaction comprises a sales transaction.

31. An apparatus for providing an interface to drivers of vehicles, the apparatus comprising:

a memory for storing a pay-at-delivery system (PADS) interface program;

a network interface for communicating with a database;

a wireless communication device for receiving a vehicle identifier from a vehicle;

a display device for displaying at least one of driving information and consumer information; and

a processor, upon executing the PADS interface program, is configured to

provide the at least one of driving information and consumer information to the display device.

32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the processor is configured to transmit the at least one of driving information and consumer information to the vehicle via the wireless communication device, where the driving information and the advertising information is configured for display in the vehicle.

33. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the wireless communication device is configured to broadcast a signal configured to elicit a transmission of the vehicle identifier from the vehicle.

34. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the consumer information comprises a sequence of advertisements dependent upon a grade of gasoline selected by the driver.

35. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the database comprises one of a weather database, a transportation database, a police database, a customer database, a map database and a manufacturer database.

36. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the network interface enables communication with a server computer.

37. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the vehicle identifier comprises a radio frequency identifier (RFID) code.

38. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the processor is configured to provide the at least one of driving information and consumer information in response to a sale transacted by the driver at the apparatus.

39. The apparatus of claim 31 where the driving information comprises at least one of a listing of travel routes to a PADS, a vehicle recall alert, a calculation of

fuel efficiency for the vehicle, and a service reminder for the vehicle.

40. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the advertising information comprises an offer of credit on a future purchase, a sequence of advertisements displayed on a pay at delivery system (PADS), and an electronic mail advertisement message.

41. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the processor is configured to take steps to identify the driver using the vehicle identifier.